GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2556
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2017
Tiger Deaths
Tanwar Shri Kanwar Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tiger deaths reported in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;
(b) the reasons for continuous increase in the number of tiger deaths during the last several years; and
(c) the details of preventive steps taken/being taken by the Government to stop rampant poaching of tigers in the country for their skin and bones?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) The total number of tiger deaths in the country, as reported by States, during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise is at Annexure-I.

(b) Analysis of tiger mortalities taken place in the country during the last three years due to poaching excluding seizures, shows that the average number of tiger deaths due to confirmed poaching is 9 and the confirmed poaching cases in 2016 is 12. While in the year 2014 and 2015, 10 and 12 seizures were made respectively, the number of seizures in 2016 were 22. Owing to high detection rate as a result of better enforcement and effective co-ordination amongst different enforcement agencies of Government of India and field formations under the State Government, an increase was noticed in 2016. Besides, increased dispersal from source areas to surrounding landscapes due to increased number of tigers is also one of the reasons.

(c) Several anti-poaching / protection measures have been taken, inter alia, including creation of online tiger / wildlife crime tracking / reporting system in tiger reserves. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau coordinates it's activities with the INTERPOL, under various international Conventions and protocols for checking trans-border trade of wildlife products. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) also coordinates with other tiger range countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China and Russia for sharing information on tiger skin seizures, to ascertain their source and ensure conviction of criminals. Further, the NTCA provides assistance to States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger for protection, infrastructure development, intelligence gathering, creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF), e-surveillance project in some of the identified tiger reserves, besides issuing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

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